REMARKS

Claims 1-5 and 10 are pending in the present application. Claims 1 and 10 were amended in this response. No new matter has been introduced as a result of the amendments. Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-3 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Farroni et al. (US Patent 6,904,214). Claim 10 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Farroni et al. (US Patent 6,904,214). Claims 4-5 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejections.

Specifically, Farroni fails to teach or suggest the features of "a bandpass filter including a transmission curve characteristic having a passband at a mid-frequency for a bandwidth, wherein the transmission curve has an attenuation range which covers a part of the mid-frequency" as recited in amended claim 1 and similarly recited in amended claim 10. For the purposes of explanation only, FIG. 1 illustrates an exemplary transmission curve characteristic, wherein the passband for a mid-frequency for a bandwidth (i.e., frequency in which signals are passed) also has an attenuation range that covers a part of the mid-frequency (e.g., pulsed function - see amended specification, page 3) to improve reception of optical signals.

In contrast, Farroni discloses an optical fiber having improved performance in response to changes in temperature (col. 1, line 15-20). In FIG. 1A, Farroni discloses a Fiber Bragg Grating (FBG) that reflects (or attenuates) certain wavelengths, and passes others (col. 4, lines 50-55). FIG. 2 of Farroni illustrates a characteristic curve of transmission v. wavelength for a typical FBG, where peak attenuation is provided for wavelength λ_B. It is clear from the disclosure in Farroni, that the mid-frequency λ_B is attenuated, and not part of any passband (i.e., it is the opposite of what is claimed). Thus Farroni does not teach "a passband at a mid-frequency for a bandwidth" as recited in the present claims. Furthermore, the claims additionally recite that "the transmission curve has an attenuation range which covers a part of the mid-frequency" (which is part of the passband - see FIG. 1 of the present application). Clearly, Farroni does not teach such a configuration. For at least these reasons, Applicant submits the rejection is traversed and should be withdrawn.

In light of the present amendments and arguments, Applicant respectfully submit that claims 1-5 and 10 are allowable. Applicants respectfully submit that the patent application is in condition for allowance and request a Notice of Allowance be issued. The Commissioner is authorized to charge and credit Deposit Account No. 02-1818 for any additional fees associated with the submission of this Response. Please reference docket number 112740-912.

Respectfully submitted,

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